

10, Reserved Rights, and in place insert section 14 added by Amendment No. 21 so that it reads, on page 4 following section 14, added by Amendment No. 21, add the following new section.

Make a similar change on F, which will be Amendment No. 25 to Committee Recommendation R&P-2. It will read, on lines 1 and 2 on page 4, following section 14 added by Amendment No. 21, add this new section.

The amendment is offered by Delegate Kiefer, is there a second?

*(Whereupon, the motion was duly seconded.)*

THE CHAIRMAN: The amendment is seconded by Delegates Bennett and Beachley.

The Chair recognizes—was it Delegate Beachley? I'm sorry, Delegate Cardin.

The Clerk will read the amendment.

READING CLERK: Amendment No. 24 to Committee Recommendation R&P-2 by Delegate Kiefer:

On page 4 following section 14 added by amendment 21.

"Section , Right to Know.

The people shall have the right to know how their government operates and all records of executive and administrative bodies shall be available for inspection by any person to the extent and in the manner provided by the General Assembly."

THE CHAIRMAN: The Chair was in error in indicating how the amendment should be marked. This is an amendment offered in substitution for Amendment No. 24, I take it, Delegate Kiefer?

DELEGATE KIEFER: Yes, sir.

THE CHAIRMAN: Therefore it should be marked 24A as a substitute for Amendment No. 24.

DELEGATE JAMES: Mr. Chairman —

THE CHAIRMAN: Just a second.

DELEGATE JAMES: For point of inquiry or clarification directed to the Chairman of the Committee.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Kiefer, do you yield to a question?

DELEGATE KIEFER: Yes, sir.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate James.

DELEGATE JAMES: My understanding of the public law is that records are public

unless otherwise provided by the General Assembly.

THE CHAIRMAN: I am sorry. I did not understand you were asking that kind of question. Delegate Kiefer has not had an opportunity to speak to his amendment. Will you hold your question?

DELEGATE JAMES: Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Kiefer, you have ten minutes within which to present your amendment, including the time for answering questions.

DELEGATE B. MILLER: Parliamentary inquiry, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate B. Miller.

DELEGATE B. MILLER: Is he presenting this as an amendment of the Committee Report, or as a personal amendment.

THE CHAIRMAN: I do not know. If we will give him an opportunity to speak I hope he will tell us.

Delegate Kiefer.

DELEGATE KIEFER: Mr. Chairman, and ladies and gentlemen of the Committee, to answer that question specifically I find myself in the same position as the airline stewardess on my flight from California. When we left Los Angeles she passed around chewing gum. She said "This will keep your ears from popping when we land in Friendship." A little man got up and said to the stewardess, "Thank you very much, it was a big help all right, but how do I get this chewing gum out of my ear?"

*(Laughter.)*

My advice, I hope, will be better received and better acted upon than that poor fellow on the airline.

What I want to say to you is this: we are in favor of the freedom to know, but not as Delegate Sherbow has said, just opening the floodgates. I think the matter can properly be handled by the legislature, and I think that it can be handled intelligently by the legislature, but if we leave to the legislature to close all the floodgates we are opening, we are in trouble.

The exceptions raised by the various experts who came over to speak on the right to know law disenchanted me on it.

Delegate Willoner has advised you as a matter of common law right you would have a right to the record. If you do not know it, the Maryland Code provides that all meetings, regular and special, by the